REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 3-21, 26-32 and 34 are pending. Claims 20, 21, 25, 25 and 27-33 have been withdrawn from consideration and claims 1-17, 19 and 26 have been rejected.

No New Matter has been Added

Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by way of the present amendments. For instance, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 2, now cancelled. Claim 1 has also been amended to remove the recitation of "prevention." Also, the recitation of "partially or completely saturated" with respect to mono- or polycyclic aryl groups has been deleted from the claims. In claim 34, the recitation of "(4-chlorophenyl-diphenyl)-carbinol" has been replaced with the more conventional nomenclature of "(4-chlorophenyl-diphenyl)-methanol." Lastly, the dependency of several claims has been altered as required by the cancellation of certain claims. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and allow the currently pending claims.

In the following remarks, Applicants address each statement made by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action by first providing the Examiner's rejection/statement in bold and second addressing the rejection/statement.

"Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C.112, 1st and 2nd paragraph, as applicants did not set forth the active ingredient chemical compound. Having selective IKca modulatory activity does not tell the reader what the compound is."

The Examiner has generically rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants have amended the subject matter of claim 2 into claim 1. Therefore, the structure of the compound in claim 1 has been defined. The Examiner's statement concerning "what the compound is" is thus addressed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are requested.

"Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st and 2nd paragraphs"

First, Applicants note that the Examiner's quotation of "21" is a typographical error and should likely read "2". Thus, the Examiner is rejecting claim 2. In this rejection, the Examiner asserts that in the definitions of Ar1, Ar2 and Ar3 as a "completely saturated aryl" is impossible. Applicants traverse this rejection.

The definitions of Ar1, Ar2 and Ar3 have been amended to remove the recitation of "partially or completely saturated" from the aryl definitions. This amendment has been made to all relevant claims. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection is overcome. Reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are requested.

Second, the Examiner also asserts that the claim does not say what the aryl and heterocyclic groups are. Applicant's find this statement inconsistent with the above rejection. The Examiner has already stated above, that a completely saturated aryl is impossible, therefore, the Examiner presumably knows what an aryl group "is." In fact, one of ordinary skill in the art fully understands what an aryl and a heterocyclic group are. Therefore, it is unnecessary to recite this subject matter in the rejected claim(s). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are requested.

"Claim 18 is objected to as being an Improper Markush of unrelated compounds"

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner. Each of the compounds recited in claim 18 is related in that each has selective IK_{ca} modulatory activity. Thus, the compounds share a common activity. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection is improper. Reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are requested.

"Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph. No proof of the allegations of claim 19 are noted in the specification (35 U.S.C. 101) and 112, 1st paragraph."

The Examiner has provided no argument or evidence concerning what aspect of claim 19 has been rejected. However, it appears to Applicants as though the Examiner is rejecting claim 19 due to the recitation of "prevention" in claim 1. Therefore, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 1 to remove the recitation of "prevention." This rejection is therefore moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are requested.

"Claim 19 is not limited to one specific disease, nor is claim 1. MPEP 806.05(h) provides for restricting out altogether claims drawn to more than one method of use."

Applicants note that MPEP § 806.05(h) is drawn to restricting product claims from claims directed to a process of using the product. Therefore, the cited portion of the MPEP does not support the Examiner's apparent statement that claim 19 must be limited to one specific disease. Accordingly, the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

"Restriction of claims 27-33"

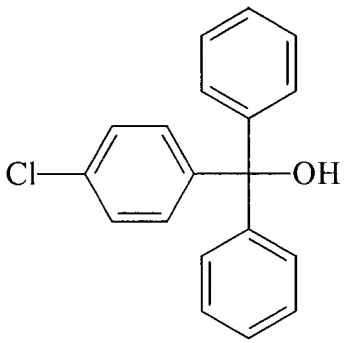
The Examiner has restricted claims 27-33 since they provide the allegation that the compounds may be used for more than one purpose. Applicants submit that this is procedurally incorrect. The Examiner does not appear to have actually searched the elected use. Correction and clarification of this issue is requested.

"Please expand on what claim 33 means, if it is the elected use. Written in dependent form, it is hard to understand what the wording of the complete claim is, what does treating sclerosis, multiple sclerosis, systemic sclerosis. See claim 19."

This rejection is traversed. Claim 33 has been cancelled, thus, the rejection is moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal thereof are requested.

"What is the structure of the compound of claim 34: How does it relate to claim 2?"

Claim 34 has been amended to recite the more conventional name of "(4-chlorophenyl-diphenyl)-methanol." The structure of this compound is:



Summary

In summary, Applicants submit that all rejections asserted by the Examiner have been overcome. Accordingly, the Examiner is

respectfully requested to withdraw all rejections and allow the currently pending claims.

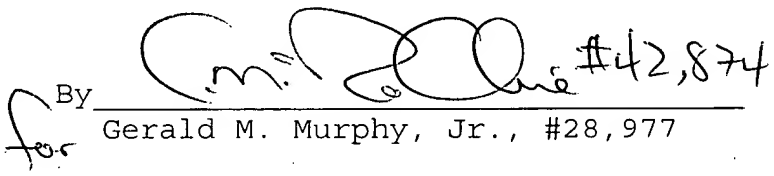
Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicants hereby petition for an extension of one (1) month to February 25, 2003 in which to file a reply to the Office Action. The required fee of $110.00 is enclosed herewith.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, please contact Craig A. McRobbie (Reg. No. 42,874) at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP



By _____ #42,874
Gerald M. Murphy, Jr., #28,977

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

GMM/CAM/gh

Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

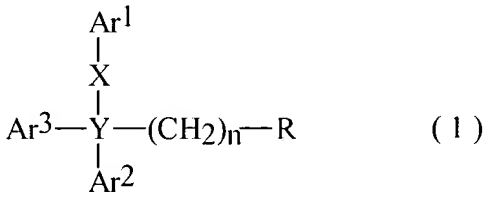
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 2, 24, 25 and 33 have been cancelled.

The claims have been amended as follows:

Claim 1. (Twice Amended) A method for the treatment, [prevention] or alleviation of a disease or a disorder or a condition of a mammal, which disease, disorder or condition relates to immune dysfunction, said method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a chemical compound having selective IK_{Ca} modulatory activity to said mammal, wherein the chemical compound is a triaryl methane derivative represented by Formula I



(I)

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X is absent, or represent a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-$, of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-Z-$ (in either direction), of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-CH=N-$ (in either direction), the formula $-(CH_2)_n-Z-(CH_2)_m-$, or of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-CH=N-(CH_2)_m$ (in either direction) or a group of the formula $-R'''C(O)N-$;

in which formulas

n and m, independently of each another, represent 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

Z represents O, S, or NR''', wherein R''' represents hydrogen or alkyl;

Y represents a carbon atom (C), a nitrogen atom (N), or a phosphor atom (P), a silicium atom (Si), or a germanium atom (Ge);

Ar^1, Ar^2 and Ar^3, independently of each another, represents a mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR'', -SR'', -R'OR'', -R'SR'', -C(O)R'', -C(S)R'', -C(O)OR'', -C(S)OR'', -C(O)SR'', -C(S)SR'', -C(O)NR'(OR''), -C(S)NR'(OR''), -C(O)NR'(SR''), -C(S)NR'(SR''), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR''_2$, $-C(S)NR''_2$, $-CH[C(O)R'']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R'']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR'']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR'']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR'']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR'']_2$, $-CH_2OR''$, and $-CH_2SR''$;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, vitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR'_2$, $-C(S)NR'_2$, $-CH[C(O)R']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR']_2$, $-CH_2OR'$, or $-CH_2SR'$; or a mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR', and -SR'; and

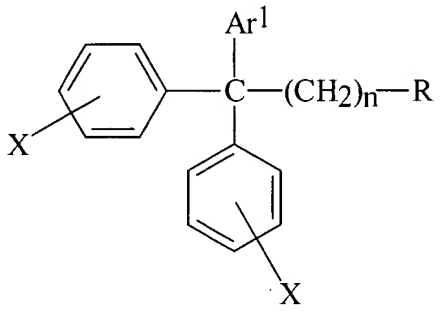
R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

Claim 3. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene;

and the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6 membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl,

2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3 oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl.

Claim 4. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the chemical compound is a triaryl methane derivative represented by Formula II



(II)

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

Ar^1 represents a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR", -SR", -R'OR",

-R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), $-CH(CN)_2$, -C(O)NR"$_2$, -C(S)NR"$_2$, $-CH[C(O)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR"]_2$, $-CH_2OR"$, and $-CH_2SR"$;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), $-CH(CN)_2$, -C(O)NR'$_2$, -C(S)NR'$_2$, $-CH[C(O)R']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR']_2$, $-CH_2OR'$, or $-CH_2SR'$; or a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR', and -SR';

which triaryl methane derivative may further be substituted one or more times with a substituent X selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"),

$-C(S)NR'(SR")$, $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR"_2$, $-C(S)NR"_2$, $-CH[C(O)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR"]_2$, $-CH_2OR"$, and $-CH_2SR"$; and

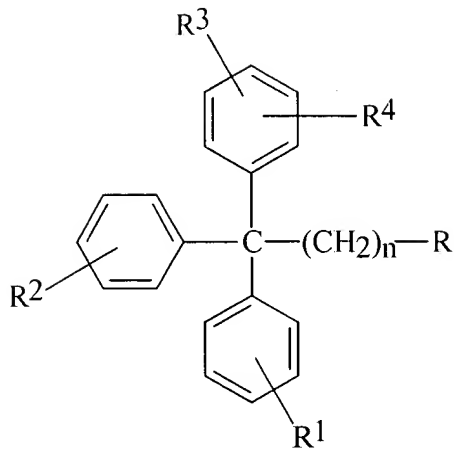
R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

Claim 5. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein

the [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, and cyclopenta-2,4 diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6 membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl.

Claim 6. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by Formula III



(III)

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR'_2$, $-C(S)NR'_2$, $-CH[C(O)R']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR']_2$, $-CH_2OR'$, or $-CH_2SR'$; or a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR', and -SR';

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4, independently of each another, represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR"_2$, $-C(S)NR"_2$, $-CH[C(O)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR"]_2$, $-CH_2OR"$, or $-CH_2SR"$; and

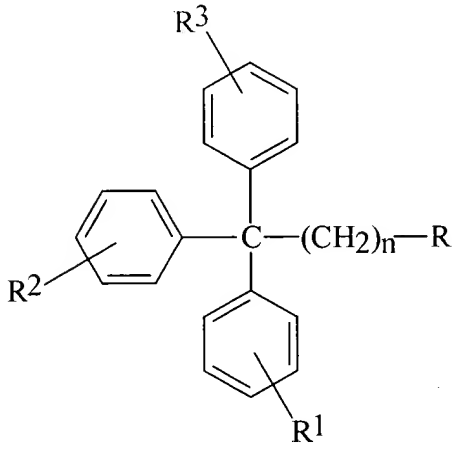
R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

Claim 7. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein

the [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl.

Claim 8. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by Formula IV



(IV)

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl,amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR'_2$, $-C(S)NR'_2$, $-CH[C(O)R']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR']_2$, $-CH_2OR'$, or $-CH_2SR'$; or a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more

times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR', and -SR';

R^1, R^2 and R^3, independently of each another, represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR"_2$, $-C(S)NR"_2$, $-CH[C(O)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR"]_2$, $-CH_2OR"$, or $-CH_2SR"$; and

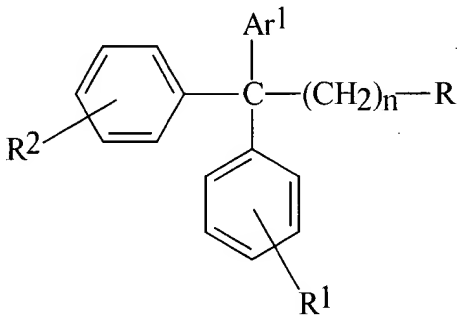
R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

Claim 9. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6 membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl,

pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl.

Claim 10. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by Formula V



(V)

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

Ar^1 represents a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"),

-C(S)NR'(SR"), -$CH(CN)_2$, -C(O)$NR"_2$, -C(S)$NR"_2$, -$CH[C(O)R"]_2$, -$CH[C(S)R"]_2$, -$CH[C(O)OR"]_2$, -$CH[C(S)OR"]_2$, -$CH[C(O)SR"]_2$, -$CH[C(S)SR")_2$, -$CH_2OR"$, and -$CH_2SR"$;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), -$CH(CN)_2$, -C(O)NR'_2, -C(S)NR'_2, -$CH[C(O)R']_2$, -$CH[C(S)R']_2$, -$CH[C(O)OR']_2$, -$CH[C(S)OR']_2$, -$CH[C(O)SR']_2$, -$CH[C(S)SR']_2$, -CH_2OR', or -CH_2SR'; or a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR', and -SR';

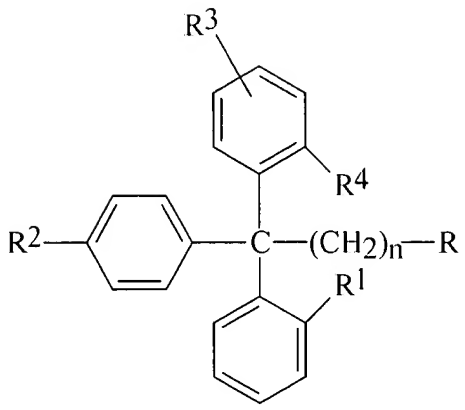
R^1 and R^2, independently of each another, represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), -$CH(CN)_2$, -C(O)$NR"_2$, -C(S)$NR"_2$, -$CH[C(O)R"]_2$, -$CH[C(S)R"]_2$, -$CH[C(O)OR"]_2$, -$CH[C(S)OR"]_2$, -$CH[C(O)SR"]_2$, -$CH[C(S)SR"]_2$, -$CH_2OR"$, or -$CH_2SR"$; and

R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

Claim 11. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein the [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl.

Claim 12. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by Formula VI



(VI)

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR'_2$, $-C(S)NR'_2$, $-CH[C(O)R']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR']_2$, $-CH_2OR'$, or $-CH_2SR'$; or a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR', and -SR';

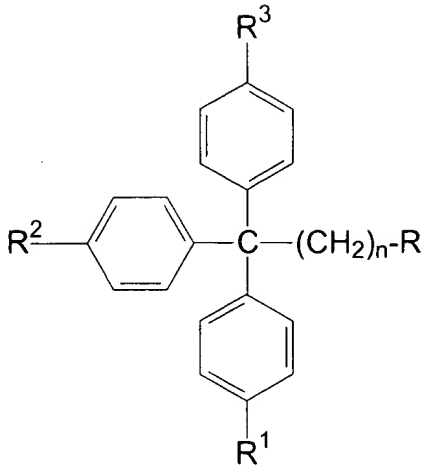
R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4, independently of each another, represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR"_2$, $-C(S)NR"_2$, $-CH[C(O)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR"]_2$, $-CH_2OR"$, or $-CH_2SR"$; and

R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

Claim 13. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein the [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl.

Claim 14. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by



(VII)

Formula VII

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR'_2$, $-C(S)NR'_2$, $-CH[C(O)R']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR']_2$, $-CH_2OR'$, or $-CH_2SR'$; or a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic

aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR', and -SR';

R^1, R^2 and R^3, independently of each another, represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR"_2$, $-C(S)NR"_2$, $-CH[C(O)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR"]_2$, $-CH_2OR"$, or $-CH_2SR"$; and

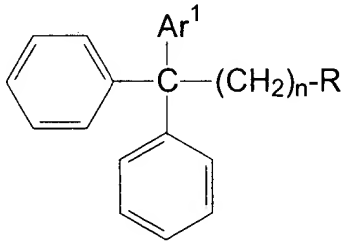
R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

Claim 15. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 14, wherein the **[**partially or completely saturated**]** mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl,

isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl.

Claim 16. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by Formula VIII



(VIII)

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

Ar^1 represents a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR",

-C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), $-CH(CN)_2$, -C(O)NR"$_2$, -C(S)NR"$_2$, $-CH[C(O)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)R"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR"]_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR"]_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR"]_2$, $-CH_2OR"$, and $-CH_2SR"$;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), $-CH(CN)_2$, -C(O)NR'$_2$, -C(S)NR'$_2$, $-CH[C(O)R']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR']_2$, $-CH_2OR'$, or $-CH_2SR'$; or a [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, cyano, -OR', and -SR';

R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

Claim 17. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 16, wherein the [partially or completely saturated] mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of

phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6 membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl.

Claim 18. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the compound is (4-chlorophenyl-diphenyl)-carbinol; Ethyl 2-phenyl-2-(1-piperidyl)-phenylacetate; or 1,1,1-triphenylacetone; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate hereof.

Claim 19. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the disease, disorder or condition relating to immune dysfunction is an auto-immune disease, AIDS, HIV, SCID and Epstein Barr virus associated diseases, parasitic diseases or immune-suppressed disease states.

31. (Amended) The method according to claim 20 [or claim 24], wherein the conventional immune-suppressing agent is Cyclosporin.

34. (Amended) The method according to claim 18, wherein said compound is [(4-chlorophenyl-diphenyl)-carbinol] (4-chlorophenyl-diphenyl)-methanol.